New England Deaconess Hospital

pulse

185 Pilgrim Road, Boston, Massachusetts VOLUME 35 – NUMBER 34 APRIL/MAY 1982

Drs. Lees and Karchmer head new sections in areas of vascular and infectious diseases

Two new medical divisions, which will provide clinical, research and educational services in the areas of infectious and peripheral vascular diseases, have been established in the NEDH Department of Medicine.

Dr. Robert S. Lees, former director of the noninvasive diagnostic laboratory at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH), has been appointed NEDH Director of Medical Research, and head of the hospital's division of peripheral vascular diseases, focusing on problems found in the head and neck.

The new section in infectious diseases section will be directed by Dr. Adolf W. Karchmer, former member of the MGH Infectious Disease Unit, and director of MGH's clinical training program under the infectious disease division.

Dr. Adolf W. Karchmer

In announcing the two appointments, Department of Medicine Chairman Robert C. Moellering, Jr., MD, said that both men excel as physicians, teachers and researchers. "Dr. Karchmer is widely known as a superb clinician and teacher who has made major contributions to the study of infective endocarditis, particularly in patients who have received artificial heart valves," said Dr. Moellering. "Dr. Lees also is an excellent clinician and teacher who has significantly advanced the medical community's understanding of the origins of atherosclerosis."

Under Dr. Karchmer's guidance, the infectious diseases section provides in-house consulting services, which previously were available to the Deaconess through the Brigham and Women's Hospital. "Now these resources will be accessible to Deaconess physicians on a full-time basis," said Dr. Karchmer, who also is an associate professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School. "We also will offer a consulting service to outpatients, a function not routinely available in other teaching hospitals."

The division's research component will focus initially on several areas involving infections of the circulatory system, particularly those which result from the implantation of artificial heart valves, those which are found in patients whose body defenses are depressed by cancer chemotherapy, or those infections resulting from organ transplants. Ongoing laboratory studies will examine basic viral-cell interactions, mechanisms of antibiotic activity and resistance to antibiotics, and the pharmacokinetics of antibiotics (the distribution, metabolism and excretion of these drugs).

Dr. Karchmer will be joined by Dr. Scott Hammer, a virologist, and Dr. George Eliopoulos, who has special interests in antibiotic research. Dr. Eliopoulos also will be involved in the medical house staff training program. The teaching aspects of the division will be tailored to the NEDH house staff and specific trainees in the field. Fellows participating in the program will have an opportunity to give bedside care, interact with house staff and conduct laboratory research. "The Deaconess presents a challenging clinical experience," said Dr. Karchmer. "There is the potential for many serious and interesting infectious diseases to occur among NEDH patients. At NEDH, you are dealing with patients who have artificial heart valves, vascular grafts, diabetes, or have undergone renal transplants – all unique sources of possible infection."

Dr. Robert S. Lees

With Dr. Lees' arrival, the existing vascular laboratory, encompassing all noninvasive vascular functions currently available at the Deaconess, will be combined with the peripheral vascular studies Dr. Lees had initiated prior to his NEDH appointment. Other members of the NEDH noninvasive laboratory include: Dr. Daniel O'Leary, a Deaconess radiologist, who has pioneered the use of ultrasound

(continued on page 6)

NEDH, Joslin establish diabetes treatment unit with Brookline Hospital

An agreement establishing a diabetes treatment unit (DTU) to be located at Brookline Hospital, and operated with assistance from the Deaconess Hospital and Joslin Diabetes Center (JDC), was signed by representatives from the three institutions on March 29.

Modelled after the Deaconess DTU housed at the Joslin facilities, the new ten-bed Brookline unit will be staffed by nurses from the Deaconess, headed by Marti Hopkins, RN. The Deaconess will coordinate the booking of patients, and will maintain a system to transport patients and medical records between the three institutions.

JDC will provide medical supervision of the unit, and teaching nurses to contribute to the education of the DTU patients, with the help of a nutrition educator. Brookline Hospital will supply the space, dietetic and ancillary services, and equipment and materials needed by the DTU patients and by the staff members caring for them.

Present during the diabetes treatment unit signing ceremony at the Deaconess were: (back row, l-r): Raymond D. Sanzone, director of Brookline Hospital; Ellen D. Howland, RN, NEDH Associate Director and Director of Nursing; David F. Lilley, NEDH Associate Director; (front row, l-r): Laurens MacLure, NEDH President; Robert F. Bradley, MD, president of Joslin Diabetes Center; C. Gerard Drucker, president of the board of trustees at Brookline Hospital.

Liver foundation forms local chapter

Dr. Charles Trey, NEDH Section Chief in Gastroenterology, recently cohosted a reception and business meeting which marked the opening of a Boston chapter of the American Liver Foundation (ALF).

The meeting was attended by physicians and by liver disease patients who are interested in obtaining more financial support for researchers who are developing better methods for early detection, prevention and treatment. "Public education is essential when dealing with liver diseases, since the prevailing myth is that such diseases stem from alcoholic abuse," explained Dr. Trey, a director of ALF's national and local chapters. As chairman of the ALF Professional Education Committee, he organizes continuing medical education courses in liver treatment for physicians and allied health professionals.

For more information on the resources available to physicians and patients from the American Liver Foundation, contact Dr. Trey at (617) 734-5552.

Deaconess Spartans complete first season

The Deaconess Spartans finished their first season with a 7 - 5 record, which qualified them for the playoffs in the Boston Hospitals Basketball League. Although the Spartans were eliminated by Children's Hospital Medical Center in the first playoff rounds, Coach Darry Horne is proud of the team's progress in just one season since other hospital basketball teams have been playing together for at least two years.

Team members are: (first row, l-r) Alan Beshansky, building services; John Voltolini, chemistry; Peter Cataldo, pharmacy; Coach Darry Horne, laboratories; Dave Shankman, chemistry; Paul Willis, mailroom; (second row, l-r) Rory Grace, messenger service; Roger Burham, surgical services; Byron Ricketts, diagnostic radiology; Thomas McWilliams, respiratory therapy; Terry Klar, Ernesto Whittington, pharmacy. Not shown in photo: Vincent Hill and Joel Bacquelod, dietary; James Spaulding, messenger service.

NEDH joins consortium to provide health care for Medicaid recipients

The Deaconess has joined ten other Boston teaching hospitals in forming the Commonwealth Health Care Corporation, Inc. (CHCC), a private, nonprofit group which proposes to contract with the state for management of the health care provided to certain Medicaid recipients. The proposal, presently under review by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Human Services, would involve 70,000 women and children in the Boston area who are now receiving benefits under the state's Aid for Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program.

NEDH Director Richard E. Lee, who represents NEDH on the CHCC Board of Trustees, said that the state has responded enthusiastically to their preliminary plan, and is now studying CHCC's detailed proposal. "The Deaconess is very interested in exploring this new, experimental approach to easing cutbacks for Medicaid recipients through the coordination of a system of 'managed care'," explained Lee. "If the state approves the proposal, the Deaconess hopes to actively participate in CHCC through our linkage with the Roxbury Dental and Medical Group," Lee said.

The current proposal would organize existing providers (hospitals, community health centers and physicians) into a series of individual plans. Women and children enrolled in this system would have to obtain all of their health care through one of the CHCC plans, which would be designed to provide the right amount, type and level of medical care for each enrolled participant in the most cost-effective manner. Under CHCC's direction, each plan would implement a utilization and quality assurance program.

Massachusetts would contract with CHCC for this medical care at a predetermined rate for each enrolled participant. If costs exceed the contracted amount, the hospital would absorb the excess. The state and the hospitals would share any realized savings. "Increased coordination of each Medicaid recipient's care is the principal source of savings under the CHCC program," said Lee. "The present Medicaid system does not avoid duplication of services. We expect that the CHCC will serve as a model for other states with similar funding problems."

Other CHCC trustee members include: Beth Israel Hospital; Boston City Hospital; Brigham and Women's Hospital; Carney Hospital; Children's Hospital Medical Center; Faulkner Hospital; Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary; Massachusetts General Hospital; New England Medical Center; and University Hospital.

Attention SON Alumnae!

Alumnae Day for the School of Nursing will be held on Saturday, October 16, 1982 – *not* the first Saturday in November as traditionally scheduled. Watch future PULSE issues for additional information.

News in Brief

Susan E. Levine, RD, renal dietitian specialist, has been named Recognized Young Dietitian of 1982" in Massachusetts by the American Dietetic Association (ADA). Each year, the ADA honors young professionals who have demonstrated leadership qualities in the association's state and national activities.

Dr. William V. McDermott, Jr., chairman of the department of surgery and Cheever Professor at the Harvard Medical School, recently returned from a visit to Spain where he was made an honorary member of the Academy of Surgery of Madrid. On that occasion, he delivered a lecture on the treatment of primary and secondary liver tumors. Dr. McDermott also gave lectures on portal hypertension and cancer of the biliary tract at hospitals in Madrid and Leon.

Dr. Evy S. Picker, an associate staff member in the NEDH Department of Medicine and a graduate of the hospital's medical residency program, has accepted an invitation to become medical consultant for WROR-FM radio, Boston. Dr. Picker will be heard twice daily in 60-second medical bulletins covering such topics as heart disease, smoking effects on health, jogging, generic drugs, cancer and male infertility.

The **NEDH Blood Bank** has been awarded a two-year accreditation by the American Association of Blood Banks (AABB) following an intensive on-site inspection by representatives of the association. The voluntary accreditation is granted if the level of medical, technical and administrative performances within the facility meet AABB standards. The NEDH Blood Bank joins more than 2200 similar facilities in the United States and abroad which have received this recognition. Founded in 1947, the AABB is the only national organization in the United States devoted exclusively to blood banking and blood transfusion services.

Central Processing Department employees **Francis Puopulo, Deborah Kravitza** and **Lucille Stanley** recently graduated from a 26-week program of instruction which qualifies them for certification as central service technicians. Six staff members currently have completed the program, accredited by the International Association of Hospital Central Service Management. The graduates are now eligible to take a national certifying exam.

Director of the NEDH Nutrition Support Service **George L. Blackburn, MD,** and **Nathaniel G. Clark, RD,** discussed nutrition and aging at an Harvard Medical School course on geriatric medicine on March 8. Dr. Blackburn and **Richard E. Griffin,** associate director of pharmacy/IV therapy services, served as faculty members for an instructional conference entitled, "Home Care: Nutritional Support – a New Frontier for Health Care in the 1980's," held at the New England Hospital Assembly meeting in Boston on March 29.

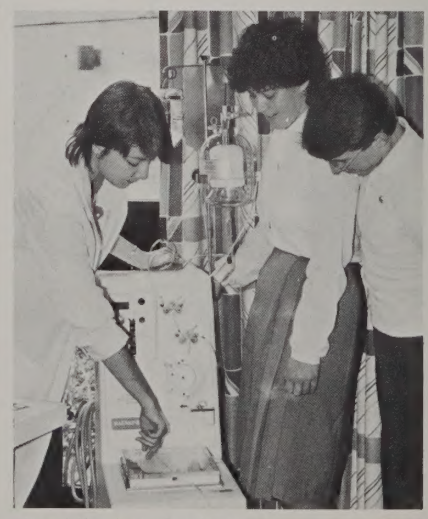
Barbara B. Hooker, RN, associate director of the School of Nursing, has been elected to the board of appeals of the Council of Diploma Programs, National League for Nursing. The appeal panel represents the final phase in the accreditation process for diploma nursing programs.

Pathology employees observe Deaconess Laboratory Week

The NEDH Pathology Department offered a series of lectures, tours and demonstrations during Deaconess Laboratory Week, held April 11 - 17.

During the week, laboratory staff members discussed their work in various areas, including anatomic pathology, microbiology, electrocardiograms, blood banking and clinical chemistry. The NEDH laboratory staff, currently numbering over 300 individuals from diverse health care backgrounds, perform over 1.5 million lab tests each year. Laboratory services are provided 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

The Deaconess observance coincided with National Laboratory Week, which acknowledges all professional men and women who work in clinical and medical laboratories.



Blood Bank Technologist Karen Stanilonis (l) explains "cell-saver" machine to visitors during National Laboratory Week. During surgery, the cell saver recovers the blood lost by a patient, cleanses it, and returns the blood to the patient.

Central processing department prepares surgical equipment

by Marsha Cohen

The scene is replayed daily. The patient is wheeled into the operating room: doctors, nurses and technicians check to make sure everything is in order as they assume their positions; the nurse takes a sterilized surgical instrument off of a table, hands it to the surgeon, and the procedure begins.

But the operation could not have begun without that sterilized surgical instrument. Ensuring that the surgical team has all the equipment necessary to perform an operation, without risk of infection to the patient, is the responsibility of 25 specially trained central processing department (formerly central supply) employees. Their work is essential to each of the approximately 25 daily operations at NEDH.

Until one year ago, operating room nurses and other personnel prepared the surgical instruments, but now the "case cart" system has been instituted, where central processing department (CPD) staff sterilize and wrap instruments via a technical, controlled process.

"The case cart system has given central processing more responsibility and has allowed the operating room (OR) personnel to spend all their time on direct patient care," said George Carrington, central processing supervisor. "It also has made the two departments a more cohesive working unit, and provided a central place in which to process equipment for patient care."

Fabio Alvarino, central processing assistant supervisor, added that "everything needed for an operation is right there in a compact, conveniently located unit. Plus, the case cart functions as a table in the OR. When a surgeon begins a case, the instruments needed to start are laid out at his fingertips. Equipment that will be used later in the procedure is stored inside the cart, according to order of use."

After an operation, contaminated and opened surgical equipment – from dressings and linens to instruments and anesthesia equipment – are sent to the CPD for reprocessing to eliminate the risk of infection for the next patient. Equipment is decontaminated immediately through an 18-minute steam, chemical and wash process that makes the instruments safe for employees to handle. Delicate equipment, such as the respiratory equipment, is decontaminated manually.

In the next stages of preparation, equipment receives an ultrasonic cleaning (vibrations of extremely high frequency sound waves remove small particles in crevices), is inspected for working condition, and is assembled, wrapped, labeled and dated. The wrapped equipment is rendered for use by the final step – sterilization. Both steam and gas sterilizers, or autoclaves, are employed: steam for sturdy equipment that can withstand the 270 degree heat and 30 pounds of pressure required for sterilization; and gas for the more sensitive equipment.

"Employees have a lot of responsibility for preparing case carts correctly and, therefore, they must legally account for all instruments for every procedure," said Margaret A. Burns, RN, director of surgical services.

The CPD follows guidelines and

Technician Juneann Richardson

recommendations of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals and agencies, such as the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. These guidelines are designed to ensure that instruments passed on for surgery, or continuing care of a patient, are not contaminated.

Because CPD functions have become more technical in nature and involve more responsibility than in the past, training is essential for registration as a central service technician. Eight members of the CPD supervisory staff at NEDH have been certified through a technical training program offered by the International Association of Hospital Central Service Management (IAHCSM), in conjunction with the University of Chicago Center for Continuing Education. The IAHCSM and the University of Chicago also approve technician training courses that are taught by hospitals and other institutions throughout the country.

NEDH's central processing department instituted a certification program for training and registration of its own employees in 1980. It is the only IAHCSM-approved program in New England, and one of only 36 accredited programs taught nationwide.

Three department members at a time are accepted for 26 weeks of academic instruction for approximately 6 hours a week. After completing the required coursework, participants are eligible to take the national examination to qualify as registered central service technicians. The NEDH course is taught by Robert Gagnon, central processing assistant supervisor and former teacher. Gagnon proudly notes that his students have averaged better than 90 on the national examinations – ten points higher than the overall score of 80 needed for certification.

"The certification course can upgrade a technician's job status and make him or her eligible for a supervisory position," Gagnon said. The NEDH program has successfully graduated six central processing technicians, including Adeline Elmeus, who has become assistant supervisor of the evening shift.

"The course gives the technician a better working knowledge of all facets of the central supply process," Burns added. "It is gratifying to us that we can now teach people not only how, but *why* they do a job."

In addition to training central service technicians, Gagnon oversees the orthopedic technical unit of the central processing department, and trains the unit's technicians. After a formal, six-month training program in conjunction with the New England Baptist Hospital, the technicians are able to set up traction units, put casts on patients, distribute equipment and maintain it so that it functions properly. The technicians also repair and deliver other equipment, such as cardiac monitors and infusion pumps for hyperalimentation.

Technicians answer approximately 100 calls per day. "They are on their feet continuously during the day," Gagnon said. "They have an 'on-the-go' type of job."

The orthopedic and central service technicians of central processing may have a more behind-the-scenes role compared to other NEDH departments, but, without them, the hospital's daily surgical and medical procedures could not be performed.

Orthopedic technician Jack Jackson explains the traction apparatus to a patient.

See page 4 for profile of Natalie Tompkins – a 50-year employee in the central processing department

Technician Jean Kady

New England Deaconess Hospital pulse

PULSE is published by the Public Relations Department, New England Deaconess Hospital, 185 Pilgrim Road, Boston, Massachusetts 02215, telephone (617) 732-8046. Third class postage paid in Holliston, Massachusetts. Permit (non-profit organization) No. 18.

Nancy Seideman, Editor
Sara Brodsky, Staff Writer

© 1981 New England Deaconess Hospital, Boston, MA

Over 400 people attend annual service award dinner

'We may have to meet in Boston Garden next year,' said President Laurens MacLure as he observed the over 400 employees and guests who gathered at the Sheraton Boston Hotel on April 16 for the annual service award dinner and reception.

Walter Hallowell, maintenance and engineering, with his wife, Janet, IV therapy.

Employees who have five or more years of service to the hospital are eligible to attend the dinner, which is sponsored by the personnel department.

A highlight of this year's dinner was a special presentation to 50-year employee Natalie Tompkins (see story below). Tompkins, along with the late Dr. Shields Warren, has achieved the longest length of service in the hospital's history.

The program began with an invocation by NEDH Chaplain F. William Schuster, followed by remarks from Board of Trustees Chairman Marvin G. Schorr and President MacLure.

Director Richard E. Lee presented service awards of merit to those employees who have completed 25 or more years of service. The certificates are awarded by the General Board of Health and Welfare Ministries of the United Methodist Church.

The evening festivities concluded with dancing and music, provided by Greg Delcore's Orchestra. →

Employees who received awards of merit at the dinner in recognition of their years of service included: (back row, l-r) Barbara E. Howell, nursing (25 years); Frank Bettinelli, laboratories (30 years); Director Richard E. Lee; Phyllis Giardini, nursing (30 years); Marjorie R. Pond, administration (40 years); front row (l-r): Suzanne Fountaine, dietary, (30 years); Board of Trustees Chairman Marvin G. Schorr; Natalie Tompkins, surgical services (50 years); President Laurens MacLure; Frederick B. Coley, building services (25 years).

Representing the histology section of the Meissner Laboratories are (l-r): Millie Mruze, supervisor; Frank Bettenilli, chief; Deborah Dunn, technician.

"I wish I could spend 50 more years here" – Natalie Tompkins

Natalie Tompkins had planned to say a quick "thank you" and return to her seat after receiving a certificate of merit during a ceremony at the annual service award dinner. After an introduction by Director Richard E. Lee, a slidetape show on the hospital which was dedicated to her, and the presentation of a gold pin set with two diamonds, a certificate and roses, Tompkins thought the Deaconess had finished expressing its gratitude for her 50 years of service.

"Not so fast," said Lee as she tried to slip back to her seat for the third time. "We've only just begun," he said, as an electric organ was wheeled on stage for presentation to an astonished Tompkins. "I was in shock," she said. "I never thought anyone felt I deserved such an honor. I always told myself that I would buy an organ when I retired. I know how to play a little – now I really will have a chance to learn it."

A Deaconess employee for 50 years, a record she shares with the late Dr. Shields Warren, Tompkins is a historian of sorts, having begun her career at NEDH as the first central processing aide to work in the operating room.

When she came to the Deaconess, Tompkins performed many of the same functions done by central processing today, such as cleaning instruments and making linen packs and surgical sets. But, the jobs that are automated today were manual then. "In those days nearly everything had to be made at the hospital, except, of course, for the instruments," she said. "Eye pads were cut from linen tablecloths and were wrapped in cloth and sterilized. Surgical pads and sponges were cut from gauze, folded and stapled."

"Another big change is that everything is disposable now," Tompkins recalled. "Back then, gloves had to be washed and patched. They were all reusable. Some of those years were also the war years, and budgets were tight everywhere."

"I've seen a lot of changes, mostly because the hospital has expanded," said Tompkins. When she came to NEDH, the only two buildings in the hospital complex were the Palmer and Deaconess.

Personnel Director John J. Kilkelly helps present the gift of an electric organ to Natalie Tompkins, central processing department.

"I loved those old days," she said. "The Deaconess was so small, we were all like family. Even Dr. Frank Lahey (founder of the Lahey Clinic) was my pal."

Tompkins and her family emigrated to the United States from Nova Scotia, Canada in 1930, and she began working at the NEDH when she was 16. "I got my job during the depression, and I was thrilled to get it," Tompkins said. "My paycheck just covered the gas, rent and light." Tompkins is not the only member of her family who has enjoyed working at the Deaconess. Her mother was a seamstress here for 22 years; her sister, Bertha, worked in the dietary department for 13 years; her brother briefly worked at NEDH; and her sister-in-law, Sally Tompkins, a nurse in the special dressings area, is a 32-year employee.

According to Tompkins, one of her most memorable moments at the Deaconess, happened in the late 1930's when she was called into an administrator's office before she left for vacation. "I was so worried. I tried to remember what I had done wrong, "to her surprise, she was told she had received the hospital's "Most Valuable Worker" award.

For the next 40 years, Tompkins continued to demonstrate the qualities which earned her that title. "I wouldn't have done anything differently, award or not," explained Tompkins. "The Deaconess is a wonderful place. It is my second home. I wish I could spend 50 more years here."

Celebrating at the 27th annual dinner

Relaxing before dinner is served are (l-r): Joan Harlamert, Dottie Bowen, Louise Mitchell, Gertie Orr, Peggy Solomen, all of nursing service; Nancy O'Toole, guest of Robert Garland, respiratory therapy; and Velma Sheffield, nursing service.

Patricia Wilcox, patient services, dances with Sam Marotta, from the barber shop.

Judy Cambria, Deaconess 4 nurse, with guest Gary Skirvin.

Mercedes Bettencourt (left), wife of Deaconess employee Manuel Bettencourt, joins building services employees (l-r) Manuel Santos, Maria Gil and Rosa Pereira at the reception.

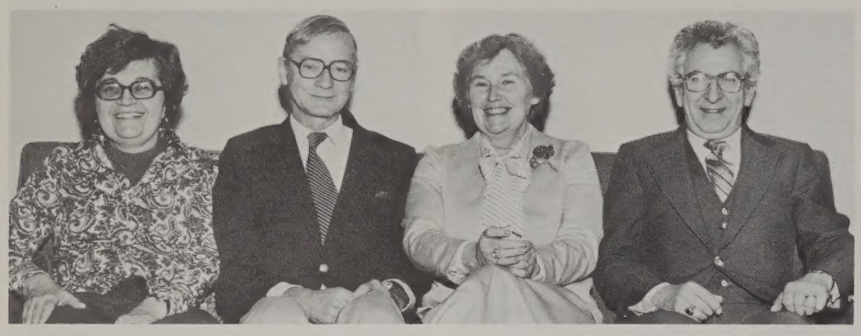
Personnel Department Secretary Connie Nielsen (l) with Natalie Tompkins, 50-year Deaconess employee, and Director Richard E. Lee.

Selma Berman (second from left), nurses aide on Baker 5, reminisces with former nurses aides (l-r): Constance Naneir; Mary McGovern; Mae Matayabas.

Gladys Healy (r), director of telecommunications, chats with her husband, Dan, and Mary Weigand, messenger service.

The medical record department gathers for a "family" shot: (back row, l-r) Dipak Desai, medical records; Pearl Desautels, outpatient billing; Marian Sciarappa, tumor registry; L. Susan Conway, director, medical records; (front row, l-r): Suzanne Nuttall and Doreen Dixon, medical records; Lillian Mutascio, tumor registry; Sadie Hayden and Lena Jordan, medical records.

Deaconess acknowledges employees' years of service



Twenty-year recipients *(l-r): Mary Wiegand, administrative services; William J. Nichols, electroencephalography; Gladys R. Healy, telecommunications;* **twenty-year recipient** *John J. Markarian, School of Nursing.*

Five-year recipients *(l-r): Parthena Apazidis, building services; Thelma White, Cancer Research Institute; Elaine L. Simonelli, administration.*

Forty-year recipient *Natalie E. Fossati with President Laurens MacLure (l) and Director Richard E. Lee.*

Ten-year recipients *(back row, l-r): Leonne Bigot, building services; Judith A. Cambria, nursing; Helen L. Siggers, pastoral care; Walter Hirtle, Jr., maintenance and engineering; Dipak G. Desai, medical records; (front row, l-r):* **fifteen-year recipients** *Lemuel A. Murrell, building services; William T. Wambolt, administration; Doris M. Fisher, administrative services.*

Service award pins were presented to Deaconess employees by President Laurens MacLure and Director Richard E. Lee at a coffee hour on March 10. Employees who have reached the anniversay date of their 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, or 40th year of service to the hospital were honored. **Five-year recipients** *included (back row, l-r): Louise A. Maher, laboratories; Mark A. Flaim, Cancer Research Institute; Edward McKelvey and James A. Ward, accounting; (front row, l-r): Bertha C. Avendano, building services, Gilda M. Khederian and Margaret L. Rothwell, surgical services; John Gilrane, safety.*

Section chiefs *(continued from page 1)*

techniques (measuring blood flow by using sound waves) in diagnosing carotid artery disease; and NEDH surgeons Drs. Gary Gibbons and Peter N. Madras, who are involved with lower extremity (leg and foot) studies in the present vascular laboratory.

When these complementary methods of diagnosing vascular disease are joined "under one roof", Dr. Lees expects that the Deaconess will have the "best equipped noninvasive diagnostic laboratory for peripheral vascular disease in Boston."

"We will be able to deliver comprehensive care to patients who are at risk of having vascular disease," said Dr. Lees. "And our biomedical engineering research will lead to the development of better methods of assessing the disease, and to proving whether or not early intervention ultimately is effective."

The noninvasive vascular laboratory, to be located on Baker 1 within the next two months, will conduct research projects in cardiovascular (heart and blood vessel) disease, with a focus on noninvasive diagnosis of atherosclerosis and heart valve diseases. In the case of atherosclerosis (blockage of arteries by fatty deposits), Dr. Lees and his associates will attempt to diagnosis the disease early and encourage the patient to change his or her lifestyle habits. "Vascular disease is the major early cause of death for both men and women," said Dr. Lees. "Our goal is to intervene and stop, reverse, or at least slow down the disease's progression. Our intervention probably would include prescribing medication, and helping the patient to lower his or her blood pressure and cholesterol, and to stop smoking." Dr. Lees pointed out that concurrent, long-term studies will be conducted to assess the effectiveness of such intervention.

As director of medical research, Dr. Lees will be a staff resource for the department of medicine in an effort to increase its research activity. He also will assist in educating house staff on how to identify vascular disease early in its development. Dr. Lees, who administered numerous clinical and laboratory investigations at the Atherosclerosis Center (Massachusetts Institute of Technology), and at MGH, said that training, clinical care and research go hand-in-hand. "If you are doing research," Dr. Lees noted, "you may be more aware of the many complexities of diagnosing and treating a disease."

Chiefs named to head new medical sections

(see page 1)

Deaconess honors 50-year employee at annual dinner

(see page 4)

New England Deaconess Hospital
185 Pilgrim Road
Boston, Massachusetts 02215

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 18
Holliston, MA 01746

TIME VALUE